

February 18, 2018

The Honorable David Arconti Co-Chair, and  
The Honorable Norman Needleman, Co-Chair  
Energy and Technology Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Rm. 3900,  
Hartford, CT 06106

**Re: HB Bill 6242 -AN ACT PROHIBITING SURCHARGES FROM BEING LEVIED ON  
UTILITY CUSTOMERS TO SUBSIDIZE INTERSTATE NATURAL GAS PIPELINE CAPACITY.**

Dear Senator Needleman, Representative Arconti, and Members of the Committee:

As a member of the Board of Directors of both People's Actions for Clean Energy (PACE) and Eastern CT Green Action (ECGA), I appreciate the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of the above-referenced bill. I strongly support this bill and respectfully urge the Committee to vote in favor of it without amendment.

Expansion of the natural gas pipeline system is unnecessary and bad public policy at a time when we need to be stepping back from the use of fossil fuels for heating and the generation of electricity. [See 'New England's Shrinking Need for Natural Gas', from Synapse Energy, Feb 2017]. Making ratepayers pay for such an expansion is not in their interest, since the pipeline will likely be used for exporting natural gas to other countries when it becomes obvious that we do not need the additional gas here in Connecticut.

I ask you to consider how the same ratepayer funds could be better spent. Energy not used is the cheapest energy (sometimes called negawatts); the best investment for those funds would be energy efficiency.

The 2015 effort in CT to switch oil customers to natural gas was misguided and needs to be reversed. Use ratepayer funds to reduce energy demand and increase investment in renewable energy, not for subsidizing an effort to expand gas pipelines that we don't need and can't afford.

Thank you,

Peter Millman  
122 Dog Lane  
Storrs CT 06268  
860-933-2944